



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/335,640	06/18/1999	MATTHEW J. CONWAY	MS-68(116627	6699

7590

12/29/2003

HIMANSHU S. AMIN
AMIN & TUROCY, LLP
24TH FLOOR, NATIONAL CITY CENTER
1900 EAST 9TH STREET
CLEVELAND, OH 44114

EXAMINER

HAILU, TADESSE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2173

20

DATE MAILED: 12/29/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Art Unit: 2173

DETAILED ACTION

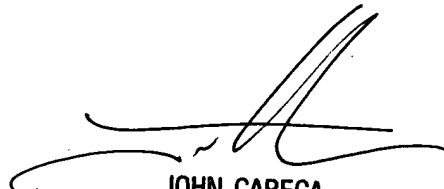
1. This Office Action is in response to the REQUEST FOR ORAL HEARING filed OCTOBER, 28, 2003 for the patent application (09/335,640) filed on 6/18/1999.
2. The REQUEST FOR ORAL HEARING filed OCTOBER, 28, 2003 is defective because it is unsigned. A ratification properly signed is required.

The REQUEST FOR ORAL HEARING filed on OCTOBER, 28, 2003 has not been entered because it is unsigned. Since the above-mentioned REQUEST appears to be bona fide, applicant is given a TIME PERIOD of ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to *Tadesse Hailu*, whose telephone number is (703) 306-2799. The Examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 10:00 - 6:30 ET. If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, *John Cabeca*, can be reached at (703) 308-3116 Art Unit 2173 CPK 2-4A51.
4. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Tadesse Hailu 12/17/2003


JOHN CABECA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER